ORIGINAL



ARIZONA WATER COMPANY 1 Robert W. Geake (No. 009695) Vice President and General Counsel 2 3805 Black Canyon Highway Phoenix, Arizona 85015-5351 3 Telephone: (602) 240-6860 4 Attorney for Arizona Water Company 5 6 7 BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION 8 9 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION 10 OF AJO IMPROVEMENT COMPANY FOR **DOCKET NO. WS-01025A-03-0350** A RATE INCREASE 11 NOTICE OF FILING **DIRECT TESTIMONY** 12 AND EXHIBITS Intervenor Arizona Water Company, hereby files the Direct Testimony and Exhibits of 13 Sheryl L. Hubbard in the above-captioned docket. 14 15 . . . Arizona Corporation Commission DOCKETED 16 17 FEB 0 6 2004 18 **DOCKETED BY** 19 20 m \bigcirc 21 22 23 24 25 26

ARIZONA WATER COMPANY U:\AJO Improvement-Ratecase\NOF_020604.doc slh:jrc 2/6/2004 11:33 AM

DATED this 6th day of February, 2004.

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ARIZONA

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ARIZONA WATER COMPANY

By: Kohut W. Mende Robert W. Geake

Vice President and General Counsel

Arizona Water Company

P.O. Box 29006

Phoenix, AZ 85038-9006

February, 2004, to: Docketing Supervisor **Docket Control** Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 West Washington Phoenix, AZ 85007 A copy of the foregoing was Delivered/mailed this 6th day of February, 2004, to: Jane L. Rodda, Administrative Law Judge Hearing Division Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 West Washington Phoenix, AZ 85007 Fred Menzer Ajo Improvement Company New Cornelia Branch

An original and 13 copies of the foregoing, and attached documents

were delivered this 6th day of

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ARIZONA WATER COMPANY

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8	BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
9	
10	IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF AJO IMPROVEMENT COMPANY FOR Docket No. WS-01025A-03-0350
11	RATE ADJUSTMENTS IN ITS WATER AND WASTEWATER RATES.
12	AND WASTEWATER RATES.
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18	DIRECT TESTIMONY
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20	SHERYL L. HUBBARD
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ARIZONA WATER
COMPANY
PHOENIX

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I. INTRODUCTION AND QUALIFICATIONS

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- Q. What is your name, employer and occupation?
- A. My name is Sheryl L. Hubbard. I am employed by Arizona Water Company ("Arizona Water") as Manager of Rates and Regulatory Accounting.
- Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR EDUCATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND.
 - graduated from Michigan State University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Accounting and I am a certified public accountant. I have twenty-five years of experience with public utility accounting and regulation having been an auditor/audit manager with the Michigan Public Commission for seventeen of those years. During mу employment with the Michigan Commission, my responsibilities included preparation of revenue requirement calculations for water, steam and electric Following utilities. my employment with the Michigan Public Service Commission, I was employed by the Arizona Corporation Commission ("ACC") Chief as the of Accounting and Rates where my responsibilities included applying statutes, rules and regulations, and ACC policies in regulating public utilities in Arizona.

Subsequent to my employment with the ACC, I joined Citizens Communications Company ("Citizens") as a Regulatory Accounting Manager in its Arizona Gas division. My responsibilities, with Citizens, included assuring

compliance with applicable state statutes and regulatory rules and decisions as well as preparation of rate cases and other regulatory filings with state regulatory agencies in Arizona and Colorado. Subsequent to my employment with Citizens Communications Company, I joined Arizona Water in my current position as Manager of Rates and Regulatory Accounting.

II. PURPOSE AND EXTENT OF TESTIMONY

Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY IN THIS PROCEEDING?

A. The purpose of my testimony in this proceeding is to: 1) clarify the type of service that Arizona Water receives from Ajo Improvement Company ("Ajo Improvement"), 2) establish that the cost to serve Arizona Water is less than Ajo Improvement's other General Service customers, and 3) present Arizona Water's proposed rate design for a wholesale 4-inch meter classification for Ajo Improvement under which Arizona Water would be served.

III. CHARACTERISTICS OF SERVICE TO ARIZONA WATER

- Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE WHOLESALE SERVICE
 ARRANGEMENT THAT EXISTS BETWEEN AJO IMPROVEMENT AND ARIZONA
 WATER.
- A. Ajo Improvement provides treated water to Arizona Water through one delivery point. Arizona Water owns, operates and maintains booster pumps, two storage tanks, a distribution system, and other plant facilities necessary to provide reliable water service to its nearly 700 customers

and performs meter reading, customer billing and other customer services for its customers.

Commission Decision No. 54369 issued February 14, 1985, established a wholesale tariff and hourly (16,000 gph) and daily delivery limitations (384,000 gallons) which govern the way Arizona Water operates its storage tank pumping operations. That tariff specifies that no more than half of the actual daily consumption shall be taken between 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM. The delivery limitations relate to quantities of water delivered, authorizations necessary to exceed specified deliveries of water (referred to in the Decision as "requested overdraft"), and charges for deliveries in excess of the maximum quantities specified when they are not expressly authorized by Ajo Improvement.

Arizona Water's two storage tanks are operated in a manner that reduces peak, daily and hourly demand on Ajo Improvement's system while still meeting the needs of Arizona Water's customers. As such, Arizona Water's demand characteristics are typically off-peak, significantly differentiating its usage from that of Ajo Improvement's other customers and thereby greatly easing the burden on Ajo Improvement's water system.

addition, Arizona Water does not have larqe seasonal usage variation. Arizona Water's Ajo Height's system customer count, remains relatively constant the throughout year without large numbers of seasonal

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Q. UNDER WHAT TARIFF DOES AJO IMPROVEMENT CURRENTLY PROVIDE WATER SERVICE TO ARIZONA WATER?

- A. Currently, Arizona Water is served under Ajo Improvement's General Water Service tariff approved in Decision No. 54709 issued on October 14, 1985. However, as discussed above, Arizona Water is not treated as a general service customer, but must take delivery of water as a wholesale customer in accordance with a delivery schedule and limitations in the wholesale tariff.
- Q. HAVE YOU REVIEWED AJO IMPROVEMENT'S AND THE ACC STAFF'S RESPECTIVE RATE DESIGN PROPOSALS FOR THE 4-INCH METER TARIFF FOR TREATED WATER?
- Based upon my review, Ajo Improvement is proposing a Α. monthly minimum charge of \$210 and a single commodity rate of \$3.14 per 1000 gallons ("M gallons") for all water sold. ACC Staff is recommending an inverted "to encourage efficient structure water use". More specifically, for the 4-inch meter, Staff is recommending a monthly minimum charge of \$234 and a two-block commodity rate design, \$2.90 for the first 180 M gallons and \$3.47 for all deliveries in excess of 180 M gallons. Neither Ajo Improvement or the ACC Staff are proposing to include any gallons in the monthly minimum charge.
- Q. HAS ARIZONA WATER ANALYZED THE EFFECTS OF AJO IMPROVEMENT'S

 AND THE ACC STAFF'S PROPOSED RATE DESIGN ON FUTURE COSTS OF

WATER FOR ARIZONA WATER?

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- Ajo Improvement is requesting an overall Α. Yes, we have. increase in revenues of 17.32% and proposing to increase the 4-inch meter tariff for treated water by 23.35%. Staff, on the other hand, is recommending an increase in revenues of 10.73% (Schedule CSB-1) while recommending a 35.7% increase for the 4-inch meter tariff for treated water (Schedule 19, page 6 of 19). The ACC Staff's proposed rate design has the effect of imposing a 35.7% increase in the cost of water for Arizona Water's 658 5/8-inch customers while comparable sized customers in Ajo Improvement's service territory may actually see reductions in their rates based on the testimony of ACC Staff's witness, Ms. Crystal S. Brown. Neither Ajo Improvement nor the ACC Staff have recommended a rate design that recognizes the service limitations under which Arizona Water receives water or excluded any of the costs that are not attributable to Arizona Water's service.
- Q. IS THERE A FLAW INHERENT IN THE RATE DESIGN PROPOSED BY THE ACC STAFF?
- A. Yes, there is. The ACC Staff's witness recommends an inverted tier rate structure "to encourage efficient water use". Because Ms. Brown's recommended rate design does not result in an increased bill for the 5/8-inch customer until consumption exceeds 6000 gallons, the intended result cannot be achieved because the average usage in the 5/8-inch

classification is 5700 gallons. Although there is a price higher volumes under the ACC Staff's signal at recommendation, a more appropriate rate design to encourage efficient water use would not place the entire burden of a recommended rate increase on the largest users. Staff is proposing an increase in gross revenue of \$68,833 line 8), \$57,998 (84.26%) of this increase would be borne by Arizona Water as shown on Exhibit SLH-1.

- Q. AS A WHOLESALE CUSTOMER OF AJO IMPROVEMENT, PLEASE DESCRIBE
 ARIZONA WATER'S CUSTOMER MIX.
- Α. Of Arizona Water's 689 customers, 95%, over or658 customers, are served through 5/8-inch meters and use 75.5% of the water. 29 customers are served through 1-inch meters and use 19.6% of the water, while 2 customers are served through 2-inch meters and use less than 2% of the water. 5/8-inch customers The average monthly use by Ajo Even so, most of the water Improvement delivers to Arizona Water would be billed at the above-6000 gallon rate.
- Q. DOES AJO IMPROVEMENT PROVIDE ANY DISTRIBUTION SERVICES OR CUSTOMER-RELATED SERVICES FOR ARIZONA WATER'S CUSTOMERS?
- A. Ajo Improvement does not provide any distribution services or other customer-related services to Arizona Water's customers.
- Q. IS ARIZONA WATER THE ONLY CUSTOMER RECEIVING TREATED WATER
 SERVICE FROM AJO IMPROVEMENT USING THE 4-INCH METER?

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A. Yes. Based upon discussions with Ajo Improvement's witness, Mr. Dan Neidlinger, as well as the statistics included in their treated water bill count, Arizona Water is the only customer receiving treated water service from Ajo Improvement utilizing a 4-inch meter.

IV. PROPOSED RATE DESIGN

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- Q. WHAT RATES ARE YOU PROPOSING FOR THE 4-INCH METER CUSTOMER USING TREATED WATER?
- Α. Based upon analysis of Arizona Water's customer an characteristics, time of day pumping limitations and the characteristics of the delivery system and Ajo Improvement's proposed revenue requirement of \$752,767, Arizona Water proposes that it be served under a separate Wholesale Rate tariff consisting of the rates set forth on Exhibit SLH-2 for Ajo Improvement's 4-inch meter classification. Arizona Water proposes a monthly minimum rate of \$210 commodity rate of \$2.67 per 1000 gallons.
- Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE RATIONALE SUPPORTING ARIZONA WATER'S RECOMMENDED RATE DESIGN PROPOSAL.
- A. Arizona Water purchases treated water from Ajo Improvement for resale purposes only. Arizona Water's customer base consists primarily of 5/8-inch meter customers with a small number of 1-inch and 2-inch meters. Ajo Improvement does not provide meter reading, billing or other customer-related services or any distribution-related services to Arizona Water's customers. Moreover, Arizona Water operates within

fixed hourly and daily pumping limits on a year-round basis. To reduce the potential cross-subsidy between Arizona Water's customers and Ajo Improvement's customers, a wholesale rate based on only the costs of serving Arizona Water should be developed to recover those costs. A rate design that recognizes the wholesale nature of the service provided by Ajo Improvement to Arizona Water is necessary to avoid the potential cross-subsidy.

- Q. WHAT METHODOLOGY HAS BEEN USED BY ARIZONA WATER TO SEGREGATE
 THE DISTRIBUTION CHARGES AND CUSTOMER SERVICE CHARGES FROM
 THE COST OF SERVICE APPLICABLE TO ARIZONA WATER?
- A. Generally, a cost of service study is utilized to segregate the cost to serve specific classes of customers. Absent the availability of a cost of service study, another method that identifies the specific costs incurred to provide treated water to Arizona Water can be used. I have proposed a rate design that recovers the variable cost of the treated water provided to Arizona Water and a fixed monthly meter charge to contribute to Ajo Improvement's fixed costs.
- Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE BASIS OF ARIZONA WATER'S RATE DESIGN PROPOSAL.
- A. Ajo Improvement purchases raw water directly from Phelps Dodge. The raw water is treated before it is served to Ajo Improvement's customers. Ajo Improvement has quantified the cost incurred for treated water at \$2.67 per 1000 gallons. See Ajo Improvement workpapers 000015 and 000016 attached as

Exhibit SLH-3. Arizona Water, therefore, is proposing a 1 2 commodity rate of \$2.67 per 1000 gallons for the 4-inch wholesale rate in this proceeding. 3 In addition, Αjο Improvement is proposing a monthly minimum charge of \$210 4 5 for the 4-inch meter classification. Arizona Water recognizes that there are some fixed costs associated with 6 7 providing wholesale water service and Arizona Water does not the monthly minimum charge proposed 8 by Ajo Improvement to cover these costs and the monthly billing 9 The revenue that results from Arizona Water's 10 charge. 11 proposed rate design as shown in Exhibit SLH-1 is 12 \$171,394.83.

Q. DOES THAT COMPLETE YOUR TESTIMONY IN THIS MATTER?

A. Yes, it does.

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ARIZONA WATER COMPANY
Ajo Improvement Company-Water Rate Increase
Effect of Proposed Increase on Arizona Water

Line	Description	Water Usage (M Gal)	Pre	Present Rates	Pro	AIC's Proposed Rates	Increase	Ē	Staff's Proposed Rates	Increase	Pro	Arizona Water's Proposed Rates	er's Increase
4" METERS: 1 Monthly Service Charge 2 Commodity Rate per 100 3 Commodity Rate per 100	4" METERS: 1 Monthly Service Charge 2 Commodity Rate per 1000 Gallons (1st Block) 3 Commodity Rate per 1000 Gallons (2nd Block)	180000	6 69 69	200.00 2.54 2.54	ទ ទ ទ	210.00 \$ 3.14 \$ 3.14 \$	10.00 0.60 0.60	6 6 6	234.00 \$ 2.90 \$ 3.47 \$	34.00 0.36 0.93		210.00 \$ 2.67 \$ 2.67 \$	10.00 0.13 0.13
4 Arizona Water's	4 Arizona Water's 2002 Consumption	63,249	↔	163,052.46	€9	201,121.86 \$	38,069.40	↔	221,050.83 \$	57,998.37	↔	171,394.83 \$	8,342.37
5 Detail of Effect	5 Detail of Effect of Proposed Increase on Arizona Water's 2002 Consumption:	Water's 2002 Co	nsumpt	ion:									
6 12-27-01 to 1-30-02	0-02	4,667	69	12,054.18	s	14,864.38 \$	2,810.20	↔	16,325.89 \$	4,271.71	s	12,670.89	616.71
7 1-30-02 to 2-27-02	-02	4,142	€9	10,720.68	es-	13,215.88 \$	2,495.20	€	14,504.14 \$	3,783.46	↔	11,269.14	548.46
8 2-27-02 to 3-26-02	-02	4,435	s	11,464.90	s	14,135.90 \$	2,671.00	⇔	15,520.85 \$	4,055.95	↔	12,051.45	586.55
9 3-26-02 to 4-26-02	-02	5,234	↔	13,494.36	s	16,644.76 \$	3,150.40	↔	18,293.38 \$	4,799.02	↔	14,184.78	690.42
10 4-26-02 to 5-30-02	-02	5,866	↔	15,099.64	ક્ક	18,629.24 \$	3,529.60	↔	20,486.42 \$	5,386.78	↔		
11 5-30-02 to 6-27-02	-02	6,169	↔	15,869.26	ક		3,711.40	છ	21,537.83 \$	5,668.57	↔		
12 6-27-02 to 7-30-02	-02	7,507	↔	19,267.78	s	23,781.98 \$	4,514.20	↔	26,180.69 \$	6,912.91	↔	20,253.69 \$	
13 7-30-02 to 8-29-02	-02	5,924	69	15,246.96	s	18,811.36 \$	3,564.40	↔	20,687.68 \$	5,440.72	€9	16,027.08 \$	
14 8-29-02 to 9-27-02	-02	5,951	↔	15,315.54	ક્ર	18,896.14 \$	3,580.60	↔	20,781.37 \$	5,465.83	s	16,099.17	783.63
15 9-27-02 to 10-28-02	8-02	5,287	↔	13,628.98	ક્ર	16,811.18 \$	3,182.20	↔	18,477.29 \$	4,848.31	↔	14,326.29 \$	697.31
16 10-28-02 to 11-26-02	26-02	4,104	↔	10,624.16	s	13,096.56 \$	2,472.40	↔	14,372.28 \$	3,748.12	s	11,167.68	543.52
17 11-26-02 to 12-30-02	30-02	3,963	↔	10,266.02	ક્ર	12,653.82 \$	2,387.80	₩	13,883.01 \$	3,616.99	€	10,791.21	525.19
18 Totals		63,249	↔	163,052.46	\$	201,121.86 \$	38,069.40	ક્ક	221,050.83 \$	57,998.37	æ	171,394.83 \$	8,342.37
19 Proposed Gros	19 Proposed Gross Revenue Increase					49	111,125		₩	68,833		€	111,125
20 Percentage	20 Percentage of Proposed Increase Allocated to AWC	ted to AWC					34.26%			84.26%			7.51%

ARIZONA WATER COMPANY Ajo Improvement Company-Water Rate Increase Wholesale Rate Design - 4" Meter Size

Blocks Present Ajo Improvement Staff \$ 200.00 \$ 210.00 \$ 234.00 0 to 180.000 \$ 2.54 \$ 3.14 \$ 2.90
Present Ajo \$ 200.00 \$ 0 \$ 2.54 \$

AJO IMPROVEMENT COMPANY TEST YEAR ENDED 12-31-02

Exhibit SLH-3 Page 1 of 2

WATER DEPARTMENT COST OF TREATED AND UNTREATED WATER

DESCRIPTION	TOTAL	TREATED	UNTREAT.
Water Sales: Gallons Sold Percent	206,024,846 100.00%	162,358,586 78.81%	43,666,260 21.19%
Purchased Water Cost: Raw Water @ \$1.08 PD Adder - 10%	\$232,392 23,239	\$183,137 18,314	\$49,255 4,925
Total Cost - Raw Water	\$255,631	\$201,451	\$54,180
Treatment Costs PD Adder - 10%	266,682 26,669	266,682 26,669	
Total Treatment Costs	\$293,351	\$293,351	\$0
Purchased Water Costs	\$548,982	\$494,802	
ro Forma Adjustments: Raw Water PD Adder - 10%	(\$21,136) (49,908)	(\$16,656) (44,983)	(\$4,480) (4,925)
Total Pro Forma Adjusments	(\$71,044)	(\$61,639)	(\$9,405)
Adjusted Purchased Water Cost	\$477,938	\$433,163	\$44,775
Cost Per 1,000 Gallons Sold	\$2.32	\$2.67	\$1.03

AJO IM. JVEMENT COMPANY TEST YEAR ENDED 12-31-02

WATER DEPARTMENT

PURCHASED WATER WATER TREATMENT CHGS.

	TOTAL	,											
DESCRIPTION	2002	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	NOL	JUL	AUG	SEP	ОСТ	NOV	DEC
Salaries/Expempt - Operating	\$94,484	\$9,055	\$6,936	\$8,146	\$8,552	\$9,648	\$5,842	\$4,867	\$5,673	\$6,534	\$8,105	\$11,974	\$9,152
Insurance/Flex - Hourly	999										1	999	
Reagents - Acid	218					112				106			
Water Treatment Chemicals	38,101	1,264	1,309	9,038	17,487	. 905	1,047	1,448	1,221	678	1,221	1,827	. 929
Freight Allocation - Acid Sales	950					473		1 -			477	,	
Other Operating Supplies	5,267	249	203	388	4			162	627	695	1,342	377	1,210
Maintenance & Repair Parts	1,247					٠.				1,247			
Outside Services - Other (1)	82,220	11,473	4,222	4,895	5,301	6,389	5,855	12,288	2,767	8,455	5,503	4,660	7,412
Employee Travel	100								100				
Employee Meals	12								12				
Allocation of Power	14,865	1,173	763	1,395	1,079	1,070	1,243	1,188	926	1,098	761	1,049	3,090
Allocation of Steam (2)	44,182	16,052	12,770	15,360								1	
Allocation of Benefits	28,549	2,749	2,110	2,473	2,594	2,923	1,608	1,460	1,702	1,960	2,432	3,792	2,746
Adjust. For Expense Elements	(7,322)			(7,322)		.•							
	(44,182)			(44, 182)		, .							
	7,332			7,332		•							
	44,182			44,182					6		1	7	7 7
Allocation to Water Treat. (2)	188,210		•		21,311	23,207	22,999	30,192	23,996	22,015	18,151	13,214	13,125
Transfer to BS - CIP Project (3)	11,203	4,202	2,831	4,170		.•							
Adjust. For Expense Elements	(11,203)			(11,203)		٠.							
	11,203			11,203	ı	:					1	0110	2 130
Transfer to BS - Accts. Rec.(3)	38,705				5,634	- 4,473	3,859	5,161	4,005	4,279	3,799	3,730	3,738
Total	\$548,989 \$46,217		\$31,144	\$45,875	\$61,972	\$49,200	\$42,453	\$56,766	\$44,059	\$47,067	\$41,791	\$41,315	\$41,130

NOTES:

(1) Charges From Maintenance Contracting Firm
(2) Purchased Raw Water from PD @ \$1.08 per thousand gallons
(3) PD Add-On (10%) to Direct Charges